

a.m. (immediately following the scheduled markup) in room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building in Washington, DC.

The purpose of this hearing is to receive testimony on the current outlook for supply of heating and transportation fuels this winter.

For further information, please call Dan Kish at (202) 224-8276 or Jo Meuse (202) 224-4756.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON FORESTS AND PUBLIC LAND
MANAGEMENT

Mr. CRAIG. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the public that a hearing has been scheduled before the Subcommittee on Forests and Public Land Management of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

The hearing will take place on Saturday, September 23, 2000 at 10:00 a.m. at City Hall, 200 Main St., Salmon, Idaho.

The purpose of this hearing is to conduct oversight on the Summer 2000 wildfires.

Those who wish to submit written statements should write to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C. 20510. For further information, please call Mark Rey at (202) 224-6170.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON FORESTS AND PUBLIC LAND
MANAGEMENT

Mr. CRAIG. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the public that a hearing has been scheduled before the Subcommittee on Forests and Public Land Management of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

The hearing will take place on Friday, September 22, 2000 at 2:00 p.m. at Montana State University, Billings, in the Petro Theater, 1500 N. 30th St., Billings, Montana.

The purpose of this hearing is to conduct oversight on the Summer 2000 wildfires.

Those who wish to submit written statements should write to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C. 20510. For further information, please call Mark Rey at (202) 224-6170.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO
MEET

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE AND
TRANSPORTATION

Mr. BROWNBACK. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation be authorized to meet on Thursday, September 14, 2000, at 9:30 a.m. on air traffic control.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL
RESOURCES

Mr. BROWNBACK. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, September 14 at 9:30 a.m. to conduct an oversight hearing. The committee will receive testimony on the transpor-

tation of Alaska North Slope natural gas to market and to investigate the cost, environmental aspects and energy security implications to Alaska and the rest of the nation for alternative routes and projects.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC
WORKS

Mr. BROWNBACK. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Environment and Public Works be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, September 14, at 9:30 a.m. to conduct an informational hearing on the nomination of Major General Robert B. Flowers, nominated by the President to be Chief of Engineers, the Department of the Army.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS

Mr. BROWNBACK. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Indian Affairs be authorized to mark up the following bills in a business meeting to be held directly following the hearing on S. 2899, a bill to express the policy of the United States regarding the United States' relationship with Native Hawaiians, on September 14, 2000, at 3:30 p.m. in room 485 Senate Russell Office Building: S. 1840, the California Indian Land Transfer Act, and S. 2665, a bill to establish a streamlined process to enable the Navajo Nation to lease trust lands without having to obtain the approval of the Secretary of the Interior of individual leases, except leases for exploration, development, or extraction of any mineral resources. These two bills for mark-up are in addition to the others previously announced which were: S. 2920, a bill to amend the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act, S. 2688, a bill to amend the Native American Languages Act, and S. 2899, a bill to express the policy of the United States regarding the United States' relationship with Native Hawaiians.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS

Mr. BROWNBACK. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Small Business be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, September 14, 2000, beginning at 1:00 p.m. in room 628 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building to hold a hearing entitled "Slotting Fees: Are Family Farmers Fighting to Stay on the Farm and in the Grocery Store?"

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON FISHERIES, WILDLIFE, AND
WATER

Mr. BROWNBACK. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife, and Water be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, September 14, 2000, at 1:00 p.m. to con-

duct a hearing to receive testimony on the Draft Biological Opinions by the National Marine Fisheries Service and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service on the operation of the Federal Columbia River Power System and the Federal Caucus draft Basinwide Salmon Recovery Strategy.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL OPERATIONS

Mr. BROWNBACK. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on International Operations of the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, September 14, 2000, at 9:00 a.m. to hold a hearing.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL SECURITY,
PROLIFERATION, AND FEDERAL SERVICES

Mr. THOMPSON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Governmental Affairs Subcommittee on International Security, Proliferation, and Federal Services be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, September 14, 2000, at 11:00 a.m. for a hearing on "The State of Foreign Language Capabilities in the Federal Government—Part I".

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON NATIONAL PARKS, HISTORIC
PRESERVATION AND RECREATION

Mr. BROWNBACK. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on National Parks, Historic Preservation and Recreation of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, September 14, at 2:30 p.m. to conduct a hearing. The subcommittee will receive testimony on S. 2749, a bill to establish the California Trail Interpretive Center in Elko, Nevada, to facilitate the interpretation of the history of development and use of trails in the settling of the western portion of the United States; S. 2885, a bill to establish the Jamestown 400th Commemoration Commission, and for other purposes; S. 2950, a bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to establish the Sand Creek Massacre National Historic Site in the State of Colorado; S. 2959, a bill to amend the Dayton Aviation Heritage Preservation Act of 1992, and for other purposes; and S. 3000, a bill to authorize the exchange of land between the Secretary of the Interior and the Director of the Central Intelligence Agency at the George Washington Memorial Parkway in McLean, Virginia, and for other purposes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mr. GRAHAM. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that my communications director, Kimberly James, be accorded floor privileges for the remainder of my remarks.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Russ Holland, a fellow in my office, be granted floor privileges during the consideration of H.R. 4444.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SECURE RURAL SCHOOLS AND COMMUNITY SELF-DETERMINATION ACT OF 2000

On September 13, 2000, the Senate amended and passed S. 1608, as follows:

S. 1608

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the “Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000”.

(b) Table of Contents.—The table of contents of this Act is as follows:

- Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.
- Sec. 2. Findings and purpose.
- Sec. 3. Definitions.
- Sec. 4. Conforming amendment.

TITLE I—SECURE PAYMENTS FOR STATES AND COUNTIES CONTAINING FEDERAL LANDS

- Sec. 101. Determination of full payment amount for eligible States and counties.
- Sec. 102. Payments to States from National Forest Service lands for use by counties to benefit public education and transportation.
- Sec. 103. Payments to counties from Bureau of Land Management lands for use to benefit public safety, law enforcement, education, and other public purposes.

TITLE II—SPECIAL PROJECTS ON FEDERAL LANDS

- Sec. 201. Definitions.
- Sec. 202. General limitation on use of project funds.
- Sec. 203. Submission of project proposals.
- Sec. 204. Evaluation and approval of projects by Secretary concerned.
- Sec. 205. Resource advisory committees.
- Sec. 206. Use of project funds.
- Sec. 207. Availability of project funds.
- Sec. 208. Allocation of proceeds.
- Sec. 209. Termination of authority.

TITLE III—COUNTY PROJECTS

- Sec. 301. Definitions.
- Sec. 302. Use of county funds.
- Sec. 303. Termination of authority.

TITLE IV—MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

- Sec. 401. Authorization of appropriations.
- Sec. 402. Treatment of funds and revenues.
- Sec. 403. Regulations.
- Sec. 404. Conforming amendments.

TITLE V—THE MINERAL REVENUE PAYMENTS CLARIFICATION ACT OF 2000

- Sec. 501. Short title.
- Sec. 502. Findings.
- Sec. 503. Amendment of the Mineral Leasing Act.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSE.

(a) FINDINGS.—The Congress finds the following:

(1) The National Forest System, which is managed by the United States Forest Service, was established in 1907 and has grown to include approximately 192,000,000 acres of Federal lands.

(2) The public domain lands known as re-vested Oregon and California Railroad grant lands and the reconveyed Coos Bay Wagon

Road grant lands, which are managed predominantly by the Bureau of Land Management were returned to Federal ownership in 1916 and 1919 and now comprise approximately 2,600,000 acres of Federal lands.

(3) Congress recognized that, by its decision to secure these lands in Federal ownership, the counties in which these lands are situated would be deprived of revenues they would otherwise receive if the lands were held in private ownership.

(4) These same counties have expended public funds year after year to provide services, such as education, road construction and maintenance, search and rescue, law enforcement, waste removal, and fire protection, that directly benefit these Federal lands and people who use these lands.

(5) To accord a measure of compensation to the affected counties for the critical services they provide to both county residents and visitors to these Federal lands, Congress determined that the Federal Government should share with these counties a portion of the revenues the United States receives from these Federal lands.

(6) Congress enacted in 1908 and subsequently amended a law that requires that 25 percent of the revenues derived from National Forest System lands be paid to States for use by the counties in which the lands are situated for the benefit of public schools and roads.

(7) Congress enacted in 1937 and subsequently amended a law that requires that 75 percent of the revenues derived from the re-vested and reconveyed grant lands be paid to the counties in which those lands are situated to be used as are other county funds, of which 50 percent is to be used as other county funds.

(8) For several decades primarily due to the growth of the Federal timber sale program, counties dependent on and supportive of these Federal lands received and relied on increasing shares of these revenues to provide funding for schools and road maintenance.

(9) In recent years, the principal source of these revenues, Federal timber sales, has been sharply curtailed and, as the volume of timber sold annually from most of the Federal lands has decreased precipitously, so too have the revenues shared with the affected counties.

(10) This decline in shared revenues has affected educational funding and road maintenance for many counties.

(11) In the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993, Congress recognized this trend and ameliorated its adverse consequences by providing an alternative annual safety net payment to 72 counties in Oregon, Washington, and northern California in which Federal timber sales had been restricted or prohibited by administrative and judicial decisions to protect the northern spotted owl.

(12) The authority for these particular safety net payments is expiring and no comparable authority has been granted for alternative payments to counties elsewhere in the United States that have suffered similar losses in shared revenues from the Federal lands and in the funding for schools and roads those revenues provide.

(13) There is a need to stabilize education and road maintenance funding through predictable payments to the affected counties, job creation in those counties, and other opportunities associated with restoration, maintenance, and stewardship of Federal lands.

(14) Both the Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management face significant backlogs in infrastructure maintenance and ecosystem restoration that are difficult to address through annual appropriations.

(15) There is a need to build new, and strengthen existing, relationships and to im-

prove management of public lands and waters.

(b) PURPOSES.—The purposes of this Act are—

(1) to stabilize and make permanent payments to counties to provide funding for schools and roads;

(2) to make additional investments in, and create additional employment opportunities through, projects that improve the maintenance of existing infrastructure, implement stewardship objectives that enhance forest ecosystems, and restore and improve land health and water quality. Such projects shall enjoy broad-based support with objectives that may include, but are not limited to—

(A) road, trail, and infrastructure maintenance or obliteration;

(B) soil productivity improvement;

(C) improvements in forest ecosystem health;

(D) watershed restoration and maintenance;

(E) restoration, maintenance and improvement of wildlife and fish habitat;

(F) control of noxious and exotic weeds; and

(G) reestablishment of native species; and

(3) to improve cooperative relationships among the people that use and care for Federal lands and the agencies that manage these lands.

SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) FEDERAL LANDS.—The term “Federal lands” means—

(A) lands within the National Forest System, as defined in section 11(a) of the Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Planning Act of 1974 (16 U.S.C. 1609(a)) exclusive of the National Grasslands and land utilization projects designated as National Grasslands administered pursuant to the Act of July 22, 1937 (7 U.S.C. 1010–1012); and

(B) such portions of the re-vested Oregon and California Railroad and reconveyed Coos Bay Wagon Road grant lands as are or may hereafter come under the jurisdiction of the Department of the Interior, which have heretofore or may hereafter be classified as timberlands, and power-site lands valuable for timber, that shall be managed, except as provided in section 1181c of title 43, United States Code, for permanent forest production.

(2) ELIGIBILITY PERIOD.—The term “eligibility period” means fiscal year 1986 through fiscal year 1999.

(3) ELIGIBLE COUNTY.—The term “eligible county” means a county that received 50-percent payments for one or more fiscal years of the eligibility period or a county that received a portion of an eligible State’s 25-percent payments for one or more fiscal years of the eligibility period. The term includes a county established after the date of the enactment of this Act so long as the county includes all or a portion of a county described in the preceding sentence.

(4) ELIGIBLE STATE.—The term “eligible State” means a State that received 25-percent payments for one or more fiscal years of the eligibility period.

(5) FULL PAYMENT AMOUNT.—The term “full payment amount” means the amount calculated for each eligible State and eligible county under section 101.

(6) 25-PERCENT PAYMENTS.—The term “25-percent payments” means the payments to States required by the sixth paragraph under the heading of “FOREST SERVICE” in the Act of May 23, 1908 as amended (16 U.S.C. 500).

(7) 50-PERCENT PAYMENTS.—The term “50-percent payments” means the payments that are the sum of the 50-percent share otherwise paid to a county pursuant to title II of the